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**BULLETIN 168**

**JUNE 2015**

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**The Study Circle website**  
**[www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be](http://www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be)**

## **Report & Minutes of the AGM of the Belgian Congo Study Circle, held at the Université Libre de Bruxelles on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Members of the BCSC gathered at The Université Libre de Bruxelles for the 2015 AGM. This was a new venue, one that proved to be an excellent choice. We enjoyed a spacious meeting room and were served a delicious midday meal. It was a paperless meeting. Instead of distributing copies of the reports (etc.) which would become waste paper after the meeting, reports were projected from computer files. (A permanent record of the meeting is given to all members by way of this report).



**From left to right :**

**V.Schoubrechts, Dr.M.Oblin,L.Achten,N.Overgaard,C.Stockmans,L.Van der Marken, C.Lloyd,D.Bilmans,T.J.L.Schilderman,T.Frennet,P.Maselis,R.Louis,B.Lockhart, C.Hénuzet,JP.Flamand, B.Willekens,L.Bierny.**

### **Opening of the Meeting:**

The AGM opened at 10.00 with the President, Thierry Frennet, in the Chair.

### **Adoption of the Agenda:**

This was adopted, as circulated. The Hon. Secretary had been notified of three items that would be raised under AOB, if they had not been dealt before then.

### **Present:**

Thierry Frennet, Ludo Achten, Laurent Bierny, Dominique Bilmans, Walter Deijnckens, Jean Pierre Flammand, Charles Hénuzet, Thomas Lindekens, Charles Lloyd, Bruce Lockhart, Rudi Louis, Patrick Maselis, Marc Oblin, Niels Peter Overgaard, Theo Schilderman, Vincent Schouberechts, Charles Stockmans, Luc van der Marken Bart Willekens. (19 members were present)

### **Apologies for Absence:**

Eric Bedoret, Eric Coulton, Bernie Harris, Jean Herreweghe, Jaques Heytens, Emile Hoorens, Michel Hopperets, Hal Hoyte, Philippe Lindekens, Michael Round, Leo Tavano, Christian Vandenbossche, Filip van der Haegen, Hayden Warren-Gash.

## Minutes of the AGM held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2014:

These were accepted as a correct and complete record of the meeting.

### Matters arising from the minutes:

None

### Officers Reports:

#### President

Thierry Frennet asked for a minute of silence as a mark of respect for two members who had died – Eliane Deneumostier and Jan Frijling.

He congratulated Charles Henuzet for his excellent work as Bulletin Editor, which was appreciated by all members. This was endorsed by those present,

#### Hon Secretary

Charles Lloyd proposed replacing the word Honorary (Hon.) with General for both the Secretary and Treasurer. The use of Honorary had been confusing for non-UK members and the change is appropriate for what is now an international society. This was approved unanimously.

He thanked all the officers who had given so much time and care to ensure the continued success of the Study Circle. The BCSC Bulletin archive is being digitised to make it freely available to all members. A CD is to be produced and its circulation restricted to members only. The cost will be low (~ £5). Periodic updating is intended. Ray Keach had obtained permission to photocopy Du Four's book in its entirety for Study Circle members. After digitisation of the Bulletin has been completed, it is the Secretary's intention to produce a CD of this book.

We intend to circulate each auction list with the Bulletin. However, priority will be given to distributing the Bulletin quarterly without an auction list if the number of lots is insufficient at the date of publication. Consequently, the auction will be delayed and sent separately at a later date (or the lots held over until the next auction date).

Overall, our membership has fallen by about 10%. Most of this was the result of resignations through advanced age, or non-payment of the subscription. Sadly there were two deaths. (See President's Report.) However, we have welcomed new members. For the first time more than half our membership is Belgian.

At the time of the AGM our membership (by residence) was:

Country	2014	2015	Country	2014	2015
Belgium	68	65	Malta	1	1
UK	22	23	Poland	1	1
USA	23	18	Portugal	1	1
France	6	4	Spain	1	1
Germany	4	3	Switzerland	1	1
Australia	2	2	Zimbabwe	1	1
Denmark	2	2	Argentina	1	0
South Africa	2	2	Netherlands	1	0
Sweden	2	2	Total	139	127

## General Treasurer:

The Study Circle continues to operate in three currencies: US Dollar (in the USA), Euro (in Belgium and Eurozone countries) and Pound Sterling (in the UK) and has accounts in these countries. This enables 91% of members to pay in their local currency and avoid foreign transaction charges. All members can use our PayPal account ([belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com](mailto:belgiancongostudycircle@hotmail.com)). For those outside these currency areas it has lower charges than those of the banks. The treasurer thanked David Schaubroeck and Ludo Achten for their work with regional accounts and auctions.

## Receipts and Payments (International) Account

to 28/02/14    to 28/02/15  
£ Sterling

### Receipts

Subscriptions received <sup>1</sup>	433.64	295.00
Books and document sales	223.85	18.00 <sup>2</sup>
Postage received	9.60	3.53
Auction: Transferred from UK auction co-ordinator <sup>3</sup>	2400.00	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3107.09</b>	<b>816.53</b>

### Payments

Bulletin & Auction List		
- UK & Rest of World – production & printing	167.26	0.00 <sup>4</sup>
- UK & Rest of World – distribution	37.40	40.35
Annual Meeting:		
- AGM, including refreshments	345.54	0.00 <sup>5</sup>
- Officers expenses, Gen Secretary/ Gen Treasurer	330.26	345.77
Secretarial expenditure claimed	0.00	23.03
Carriage:		
- transfer of library to Belgium	168.68	0.00
- delivery of collection of Bulletins (1 to 132) to Hon Sec.	18.60	0.00
Insurance	120.89	120.84
Auction payment to A Keach (Ray Keach collection)	1200.00	0.00
Payment to Editor re. expenses 97.76€	0.00	72.26 <sup>6</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2397.28</b>	<b>602.25</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>709.81</b>	<b>214.28</b>

<b>Balance on hand at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>1075.20</b>	<b>1289.48</b>
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I certify that the "Receipts and Payments Account" is a complete account of all transactions for the year ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015

*Charles H Lloyd*  
**Treasurer**

## Notes to the accounts

1. Nowadays fewer subscriptions are paid into the International Account. An increase in payments into the Belgian account compensates for this.
2. Some books in the UK stock were sold to a member living in the Eurozone. Payment was made into the Belgian account.
3. This was surplus auction income (from the sale of Keach material) held by the UK auction co-ordinator and transferred into the general (International) account.
4. Production of the Bulletin was transferred to Belgium in April 2014.
5. Responsibility for payment of the cost of the AGM has been transferred to the Belgian account.
6. This is a non-recurrent cost which was not required after this withdrawal – it will be re-deposited.

Payment to the beneficiaries of Ray Keach for that part of his collection sold in our Auction is complete, with the exception of a very small amount which will be paid soon.

The International Account shows only part of our financial position. Until 2014 this was the only account published. To improve transparency, our other accounts will be shown.

### ***Auction holdings in the UK***

UK members pay Bernie Harris for their auction purchases. From the money he collects, payment is made to UK sellers. This procedure avoids bank foreign currency transaction charges. Surpluses / deficits can be dealt with as required.

At the 28<sup>th</sup> February, the annual receipts / payments balance sheet was:

<b>Assets and income</b>		£ Sterling
Balance at 1 March 2014		568.02
Auction 2014 (1) Lloyd (September 2014) <sup>2</sup>		34.28
Auction 2014 (1) Marriner (September 2014) <sup>2</sup>		107.26
<b>Total</b>		709.56
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Transfer to International Account (March 2014)		500.00
<b>Total</b>		500.00
<b>Balance</b>		
Auction holdings in the UK at 28 February 2015		209.56 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Final payment to the beneficiaries of Ray Keach will be made from this holding

<sup>2</sup> Calculated at an exchange rate 1.25€ = £1

### ***Paribas Account held in Belgium***

to 28/2/15  
€

<b>Receipts</b>	
Subscriptions received	1063.94
Books and document sales	79.00
Expertisation profit	63.00
Auction profit	631.09
Minor financial income	9.88
Exceptional income <sup>1</sup>	148.25
<b>Total</b>	1995.16

## Payments

Bulletin expenditure <sup>2</sup>	224.29
Internet	31.46
Annual Meeting:	
- AGM, room hire	200.00
- Refreshments	248.75
Financial charges	27.89
To UK <sup>3</sup>	177.09
To USA <sup>4</sup>	511.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>1421.47</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>573.69</b>

1. Sale of part of the Study Circle book stock in the auction + Donation + small "Bonus"
2. Printing costs for 2014-5 not included. Not yet paid
3. Auction payments made by 2 UK members & held in the UK – see UK auction account = £141.54
4. Auction payments made by US members to USA auction co-ordinator and held in the USA

## Funds Held in Belgium

On the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 the balance of funds held in Belgium was 2575.63€. [This is the sum of balances in the Paribas bank account (2386.79€), the BCSC PayPal account (127.60€), the BCSC Savings account (27.72€) and cash-in-hand (33.52€)].

## US Account

At the time of the AGM the US balance sheet was not available. The treasurer understands that the position is healthy.

## Subscription Rates 2016

Subscription rates have been held constant for two years, even though prices (notably postal costs) have been increasing. It was prudent for the officers to consider an increase. However, members will be pleased to read that after considering our financial position, a decision was taken to not recommend an increase for 2016. The AGM accepted this, unanimously.

Global Area	Subscription 2016 (due 1 Jan. 2016)	
	A	B
UK	£12	£10
Belgium	12€	12€
Other European	18€	12€
USA	\$22	\$18
Rest of the World	£20	£10

A Rate for members who receive the Bulletin etc. by post

B Rate for members who receive the Bulletin etc. by e-mail attachment



## **Auction Sales Officer**

Marc Oblin presented the report on behalf of the Auction team. Two auctions had been achieved in the past 12 months. (The results for only one of these features in the accounts, because the closing date for bidding in the more recent was a few days after the end of the accounting year.) A total of 333 lots were put on sale, and 59,6% of these were sold. The total amount for lots sold was 3,353.75 euros. The auction officers hope to be able to make three auctions before the 2016 AGM, but we still need some (interesting) lots to achieve this.

The report was followed by a frank discussion. Thomas Lindekens disputed the sale of several lots in Auction 2014 (1). The auctioneer, Thierry Frennet, had investigated Thomas' claim and found no mistake. After some further exchanges, the Secretary intervened to suggest that any further discussion of this particular matter should continue between Thomas and the auctioneer alone after the AGM. He felt that it was time to move on.

Thomas moved onto a second matter, the organisation of the auction. He advised the Auctioneer to record every bid with the amount and date on which it is received. Continuing, he said that after the auction an e-mail should be sent to every successful bidder stating the result, for checking and to allow time for objections before lots are posted out. His comments were noted.

## **Secretary of the Expertisation Committee**

This year 37 certificates were issued of which 12 were free of charge (member's entitlements). [In the previous year 28 certificates were issued of which 10 were free of charge.] Members are reminded that they are entitled to two free expertisations each year. A BCSC certificate ensures acceptance by others if, at a future date, the item is put up for sale. While income is not of primary importance, expertisation created a net income of 63.00€ this year, double that of last year.

After the presentation of his report the Secretary of the Expertisation Committee, Charles Henuzet, offered to answer questions. Thomas Lindekens criticised the time taken to issue certificates. He was reminded that the Expertisation Committee undertook this exacting work voluntarily in their spare time. Also, expertisation is not a black and white issue, which means that the time taken varies from stamp to stamp. Other members expressed support for the Expertisation Committee, pointing out that it is more important to get the result correct than to meet an arbitrary deadline.

Thomas Lindekens had written to the Secretary to ask for duplicates of *lost* expertisation certificates to be issued on request. The Officers as well as the Expertisation Committee had considered this request and agreed unanimously that duplicates should not be issued. The stamp in question had to be re-examined by the Committee. If it is considered to be genuine, a new certificate would be issued with a new number and signed by those who re-examined it. The old certificate would be withdrawn and this would be recorded to prevent fraudulent reuse.

## **Librarian**

Walter Deijnckens reported that very few books were borrowed last year and encouraged members to make use of a service that gave them access to rare books on our subject. To encourage those present at the AGM, he had brought about 80% of the library stock and members were invited to take these away with them when the meeting ended.

## **Packet Secretaries (UK & Belgium)**

John Kelland and Marc Oblin gave identical reports, *viz.*, “There not being sufficient material, a packet was not circulated this year”.

At the 2014 AGM the same reports were given and the continued existence of BCSC packet questioned. This year, a proposal was put, to end both packets. There was a short discussion at the end of which the proposal was put to a vote. An overwhelming majority agreed. The packets will cease. (At a future date they can be re-instated if there is a demand from sellers and potential buyers.). The Packet Secretaries were thanked.

## **Bulletin Editor**

Charles Henuzet reported that three Bulletins were published in 2014. Each had a minimum of 24 pages. To publish of a copy of the Bulletin the editor requires an adequate number of articles. Some members had submitted articles and other members have promised articles which he had not yet received. Members are encouraged to share their knowledge by sending the Editor articles and short pieces.

The Secretary recalled that in the past, when publication was quarterly, bulletins often had far fewer pages. The total number of pages in 2014 was comparable with most of the “better” years.

Once again, Charles was applauded for his achievement.

## **Webmaster**

Bruce Lochhart reported that the website had remained unchanged, with the exception of the two auctions. For these, the auction list and scans of the lots appeared on the site for the time period relevant to each auction.

He confirmed that digitising all bulletins is taking place and that they will be made available to members as a collection by means of a CD or PC memory stick.

He produced statistics on use of our website. The software revealed that on average there had been 589 *hits* per day on the site which had resulted in 59 *visits* per day. Belgium (29%) and the USA (28%) dominated the *hits*.

The Secretary had received a request from Philippe Lindekens. He wanted an auction list (with scans) to remain on the website until the following auction. In response, the webmaster said he had followed established practice, removing the auction after it had been completed. There was little point in keeping an auction that had ended on the site. (Note: It is possible to download selected scans and lot descriptions before the auction has closed, if a member wants to record details of a lot on which has bid.)

## **Officers for 2016**

The Study Circle does not have a written constitution and the procedure for succession should be set out. Other organisations that are similar to ours follow a common good practice, one which we can adopt:

- 1) If a member believes he can make a contribution by holding a particular post, a nomination in writing must be received by the General Secretary no later than one month before the AGM. Self-nomination is not allowed.
- 2) The nomination must have a proposer and a seconder. The nominee must state he is willing to stand.



- 3) If the incumbent officer wishes to continue in office a ballot will take place.
- 4) If an officer resigns from office (or the office falls vacant for any other reason) and there is no nomination for a successor, the President (after consultation with other officers) can co-opt a replacement.
- 5) This procedure does not apply to the Expertisation Committee. Its Secretary (& Chairman) will be appointed by the President after consultation with other officers. The Secretary of the Expertisation Committee will select the members and the consultants of the Expertisation Committee.

No nominations had been received for 2016. Therefore, the committee is unchanged with the exception of Packet Secretaries. These posts are abolished because the packets have ended. For 2016 the Officers of the BCSC are:

President	<i>Thierry Frennet</i>
General Secretary	<i>Charles Lloyd</i>
Regional Sec. – Belgium	<i>Patrick Maselis</i>
Regional Sec. – USA	<i>David. A. Schaubroeck</i>
Regional Sec. – UK + R of W	<i>Charles Lloyd</i>
General Treasurer	<i>Charles Lloyd</i>
Financial Officer	<i>Ludo Achten</i>
Regional Treasurer – Belgium	<i>Ludo Achten</i>
Regional Treasurer – USA	<i>David Schaubroeck</i>
Regional Treasurer – UK and R of W	<i>Charles Lloyd</i>
Bulletin Editor	<i>Charles Henuzet</i>
Bulletin distribution – Belgium	<i>Patrick Maselis</i>
Bulletin distribution – USA	<i>Ken Goss</i>
Bulletin distribution – UK and R of W	<i>Charles Lloyd</i>
Web Master	<i>Bruce Lockhart</i>
Auction Secretaries	<i>Thierry Frennet, Marc Oblin, Charles Stockmans</i>
Auction Finance Officer	<i>Ludo Achten</i>
Librarian	<i>Walter Deijnckens</i>
Expertisation committee:	
- Secretary and Chair	<i>Charles Henuzet</i>
- Members	<i>Thierry Frennet, Marc Oblin, Filip Van der Haegen</i>
- Consultants	<i>Leo Tavano, Michel Hopperets, JeanPierre Flamand, Luc Van der Marcken</i>

### **Any Other Business**

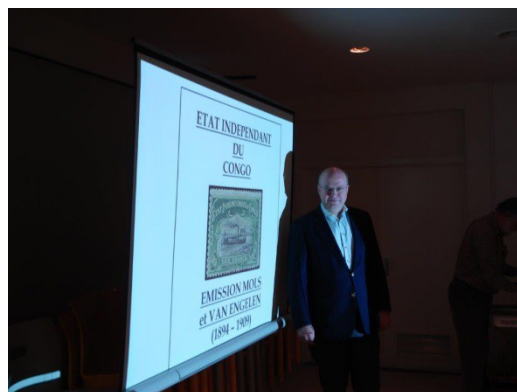
Items submitted to the General Secretary had been considered earlier in the meeting.

### **Close of the Business Section of the AGM**

The business was completed at 11:40.

## Displays given by members at the Annual General Meeting

After the business part of the AGM had been completed, it was time for members to display the material they had brought. As we are accustomed to, we were treated to a wonderful selection of interesting and rare items, given with authoritative explanations. As you see from the picture of Patrick Maselis, we continued to follow the *paperless meeting* format. Powerpoint presentations were used and everyone was able to focus on each and every particular detail as it was explained. When the end of the meeting came (at 16:30) we all agreed that this had been a most enjoyable way to spend a Saturday. Our thanks go to those members who presented displays and entertained us so well.



### ***The Mols – Van Engelen stamps of the E.I.C., 1894 – 1908*** ***Patrick Maselis***

(When I asked Patrick for a favourite item to illustrate my report he sent four from which I could choose. I sat and looked for ages turning from one to the other, selecting and then changing my mind. Finally, I decided that showing all four would be appropriate and I am sure that everyone will appreciate this! – Charles Lloyd)

Patrick reviewed this issue in all its aspects. Proofs were shown, the highlights of which were the original paintings of most stamps.



Of the stamps, the 25c re-engraved and inverted centres for both 10c and 10Fr were of particular note. A 3Fr50 stamp on a document is a rarity to select and mention as the representative for the Princes printing. Patrick possesses, and showed full sheets of all stamps, with the exception of the 10Fr denomination. Contemporary postmarks on this issue, including that of *Chutes François-Joseph*, formed part of the used selection.

This was followed by stamps on cover. We saw the use of higher denomination stamps for postage, with two 10Fr on one cover and a 10Fr with a 5Fr on another. Finally, there were letters carrying the *Enregistré* cachet addressed to both internal and international destinations.

A single word can summarise what we saw – spectacular







**The Imperforate Stamps of the Malines / Mechelen “Native scenes, animals and landscapes” Issue**  
**Thierry Frennet**



Panes of eight stamps of these five denominations were printed in 1937 for booklets. Also, a limited number were printed as *feuillet de luxe* and not perforated, being intended for presentation to dignitaries. The fascinating history of this printing was revealed by Thierry and in the discussion that followed. All but three sets of these presentation miniature sheets were lost in a plane crash and the ensuing fire. Apart from the three unaffected miniature sheets there were a few that were partly burnt

and unaffected stamps were cut from these to make up imperforate sets, such as this one. How many sets were assembled and still exist is unknown, but it likely to be very very few.

## Forgeries of the 1886 Issue Charles Henuzet



All of the authentic stamps of this issue were copied and as a consequence fraudulent (including reprinted) stamps can be found for all denominations. Copies for sale were printed in sheets of 10 stamps, except for the 5Fr denomination which can also be found in larger units. (e.g. a sheet of 50 stamps.) There are a number of forgeries of each stamp and Charles reminded us that Ray Keach said that there were no less than seven for the 5Fr, though only one of these was dangerous. Charles pointed out small features that appear on genuine stamps. In addition to the engraving, perforations (comb is correct whereas line is false), the paper used and the shade of ink provide the evidence for arriving at the decision.

## How to Distinguish the Princes from the Regular Printing of the Mols Stamps Charles Henuzet



*Both images are Princes Printings without the overprint (COB 46P & 40P, respectively)*

To recognize and distinguish stamps of the Princes printing from those of regular printing presents some difficulty, particularly when the CONGO BELGE overprint is absent. All aspects of the stamp must be taken into account. The presence of a regular perf. 14 (a feature of the Princes printing) taken alone is not enough. Ink colours and features on the engraving are necessary pieces of evidence. When they are taken together the correct conclusion follows. For this exercise it is very important to have correctly identified stamps for comparison. Charles gave examples.



## Commemoration of the Explorer H M Stanley

### Charles Henuzet

All collectors of Belgian Congo stamps know that the Stanley stamps exist in two heights (referred to as small and large).

The research presented here has been reported before now (see Bulletin 6, page 3) but appears to have been overlooked. The COB indicates that the height alternates on successive rows. However, after conducting a study, Charles concluded that to find a vertical pair (or block of 4) with alternating rows of different height might not be easy, but to find a vertical pair (or block of four) with two rows that have the same height is even less likely.

This observation presents an opportunity for an article in a future BCSC Bulletin to substantiate observations first reported in 1952 and supported by the research presented here.



*The 35c denomination: two consecutive rows of small (i.e. both stamps are 35mm in height)*

### From the editor



Serious philately is not limited to the physical aspects of stamps (e.g. shades, perforations etc.). It includes the context in which the postal service functioned and the specialised study of postal history is increasingly in popularity. Resources that include this bulletin allow the collector to determine how an item of mail was carried and (if he is lucky) to discover he has a piece that is out of the ordinary. It is important to study postal history in the context of the time. Circumstances change with the passage of the years. To fully understand an era, we

must know the politics, the development (or lack of it) and, importantly, those Europeans who were posted to, or went as traders, or volunteered as missionaries to Central Africa. To this end the BCSC bulletin should publish, from time to time, articles that give us the reality and flavour of the situation. Minou button-De Groote's article (recounted from a personal perspective) is both interesting and informative.

## Membership and Study Circle News

### New Member

We extend a warm welcome to a recently joined member and trust that he will enjoy and benefit from his association with us

<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Harry Pattyn</b>	Mandellaan 281, 8800 Roesalere. e-mail <a href="mailto:Harold@2voora.be">Harold@2voora.be</a>
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<b>Australia</b>	<b>Dr William Cochrane</b>	Primrose cottage 32 Fergusson street 3222 Camperdown Victoria e-mail <a href="mailto:Mondostamps10@gmail.com">Mondostamps10@gmail.com</a>
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*His interests (in particular) are early issues, postcards and postmarks of the Belgian Congo. He is also the editor of The Philatelic Database and Stamp Collecting Archive ([www.philatelicdatabase.com](http://www.philatelicdatabase.com))*

We apologise to the following members who joined in 2014, but through an oversight were not listed as new members at that time

<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Johan Decock</b>	Meenseheirweg 25 8800 Roeselare e-mail <a href="mailto:Decock.johan@gmail.com">Decock.johan@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Patrick Schreurs</b>	Constantijn Duboisstraat 21 8800 Roeselare e-mail <a href="mailto:patrick.schreurs@belgacom.net">patrick.schreurs@belgacom.net</a>
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### Changes of Address

<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Nic Van der Marliere</b>	Algemene Afvaardiging van der Vlaamse Regering, 1A Cavendish Square, London W1G 0LD, UK. e-mail <a href="mailto:gr@flandershouse.co.uk">gr@flandershouse.co.uk</a>
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<b>France</b>	<b>Christian Hoornaert</b>	Grand Rue 35 55600 Breux e-mail <a href="mailto:hoornchris@orange.fr">hoornchris@orange.fr</a>
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<b>UK</b>	<b>Andrew Fowler</b>	e-mail <a href="mailto:Andrew.fowler5@yahoo.co.uk">Andrew.fowler5@yahoo.co.uk</a>
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### Resignation

<b>Argentina</b>	<b>Nestor Coppes</b>	Nestor resigned with regret. Restrictions on the export of money imposed by the government make continued membership impossible at this time. We hope this is temporary.
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## My favourite cover

### Father Christmas Came Today Minou Button-De Groot

*(This article first appeared in Autumn 2014 Newsletter of the Nottinghamshire Philatelic Society under the title "Serendipity")*

Father Christmas indeed came today, and here is how.

Once in a while, like most people I suppose, I cannot sleep and so I surf the internet. I surf for news, I surf for recipes, I surf for stamps, I surf for postcards. For the latter two I often go to [www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net).

Well, about six months ago I landed on Delcampe and thought I would look at what was available for Buta, Belgian Congo, the birthplace of my brother and myself. There were a few stamps with that interesting postmark, but there were postcards, some of the Missionary Fathers and one of a football team. Handwritten on the image was "*L'Union sportive de Buta 1931*". [The seller (Roumet) described it as the football team of the "Union sportive de Buta"]. I am not that much into football, but the night was long and all of a sudden my eyes became attracted to the man in the lower bottom right corner - my father! ...I did not even know he ever played football because I was but seven when he died.



This was followed by comparisons with ancient photos, looking at the hairline and consulting the family patriarch, my cousin André. It was him!

The handwriting on the card is suspiciously like that of my father. I must get down that box of photos and papers to confirm this.

Alas the auction had been and gone. The posting was actually a link from Delcampe to Roumet, a French firm. After a while it disappeared from Roumet, but by devious manoeuvres I could still find it.

In July we went to the Royal Philatelic Meeting in Ypres at which I talked with a young man sporting the name Delcampe. He was Sébastien Delcampe, himself. I told him my little story and he was attentive.

I thought little more of this event, until last week when an e-mail arrived asking for my telephone number and address. Then, lo and behold, today the postcard arrived by UPS delivery<sup>1</sup>.

Such a chance encounter, such an act of kindness, and of course the know-how to find such an esoteric item resulted in the acquisition of a postcard that is interesting, but to me is a family treasure on which no price can be put. Now, I am a firm believer again!

<sup>1</sup> This was in September 2014

## Rare Incoming Post Office Postal Stationery Wrapper to Kinsembo

Dr John K. Courtis FRPSL [acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk](mailto:acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk)

A newspaper wrapper from Great Britain was mailed from Manchester on 4 September 1891 and addressed to "Messrs. F. Cohn & Co., Kinsembo, South West Coast of Africa". Searching the web revealed that Kinsembo is located in the Bas-Congo area of The Democratic Republic of the Congo. Researching the likely route of this wrapper has not been easy. An image of the wrapper was sent to Charles Lloyd with a request for help regarding the routing from Banana up-river and by land. Charles kindly took the image with him to Brussels to a meeting of the Belgian Congo Study Circle to see if he could tease out any information about Kinsembo and F. Cohn & Co. He reported that a number of specialists had a problem with the location of Kinsembo.

A major difficulty in routing newspaper wrappers is that there are almost never any transit or arrival postmarks or named ships. The most likely routing scenarios cannot be definitively proven. The newspaper wrapper in question is shown as Illustration 1. It is the only known recorded example of a GB wrapper addressed to Kinsembo.



**Illustration 1: PO Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrapper Addressed to Kinsembo**

### Scenario A

The wrapper left the Manchester post office on September 4, most probably by rail to Liverpool to connect to the British ship *SS Benguela* which departed from Liverpool on September 23 for Boma on the Congo River. The *Benguela* was a Royal Mail steamer and cargo ship of the Liverpool based British & African Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. (by then owned by Elder Dempster & Company) and is shown as illustration 2. Gudenkauf (1982) lists this vessel as the next departing ship to the Congo after the mailing date at Manchester. Elder Dempster & Co. held the mail contract for delivery to West Africa.

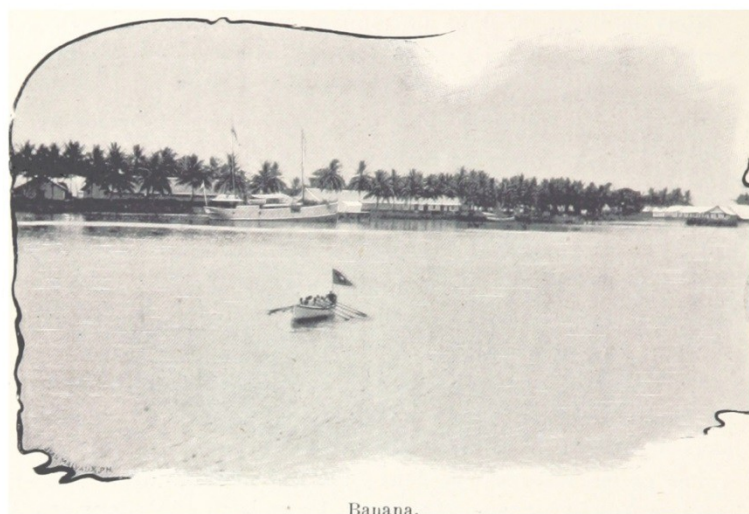


**Illustration 2: SS Benguela**

By what route did the S.S. *Benguela* sail from Liverpool to Banana and up-river to Boma? The likely ports of call were Funchal (Madeira), Teneriffe (Canary Islands), Dakar (Senegal), Bathurst (The Gambia), Freetown (Sierra Leone) and Banana (Congo). Ocean-going ships could navigate the River Congo up-river as far as Matadi but the *Benguela's* destination is likely to have ended before this, at Boma 100km upstream from Banana. While Gudenkauf does not specify the arrival port and date for this particular voyage, Delbeke records that on its prior trip the *Benguela* left Liverpool on 20 May and arrived at Boma on 11 July, 47 days later.

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words and the landing at Banana can be seen in Illustration 3. Banana was a small seaport situated in Banana Creek, an inlet about 1 km wide on the north bank of the Congo River's mouth separated from the ocean by a spit of land 3 km long and 100-400m wide. The port is located on the creek side of the spit.

**Illustration 3: Landing at Banana in 1899**



*Landing 1899: p.94 of Heures africaines; L'Atlantique-Le Congo by VANDRUNEN, James*

The wrapper can be routed from Liverpool to Boma reasonably accurately. The time taken would be in the vicinity of 47 days. If it left Liverpool on 23 September then its arrival at Boma was approximately 9 November. Mail was unloaded at Boma and transferred to a smaller mail boat that could navigate the shallower river an additional 50km to Matadi located on the south bank of the River Congo.

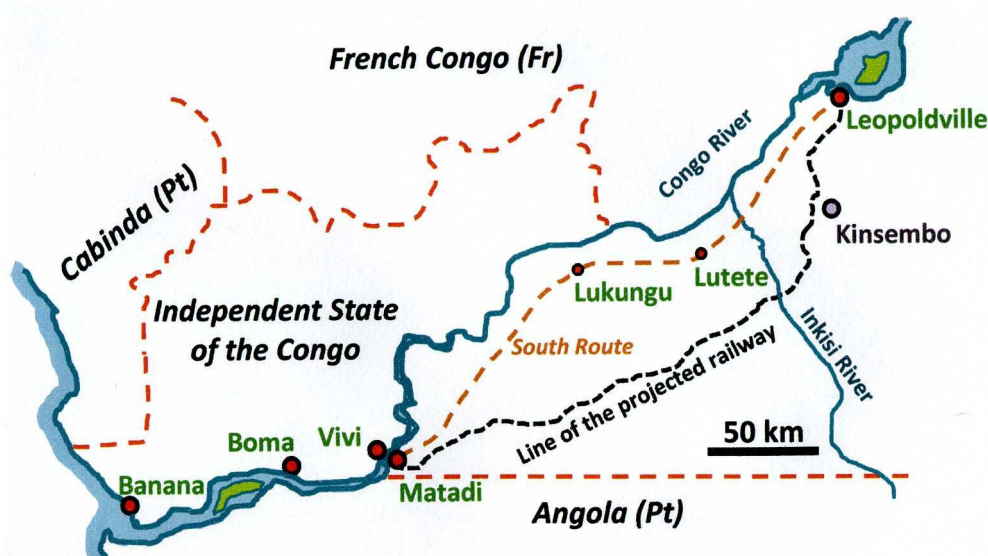
The real difficulty in this routing exercise has been to map the exact location of Kinsembo. In 1891, the postmark date of the wrapper, it was a small hamlet located inland. Given this remote and inland location what line of business was conducted by the firm F. Cohn & Co? No information about this firm was forthcoming from a search of the Internet. Hence, a certain amount of reasoned logic is needed. The likely choices of commodities are cotton, gum and barrels of palm oil. The source of the wrapper is Manchester, England so the question is whether there is any connection between Manchester and F. Cohn & Co?



The obvious linkage is cotton. At that time, Manchester was often referred as *Cottonopolis*, being the world centre of cotton cloth manufacture and export. Because commercial cotton production started in the Belgian Congo only towards the end of World War I (in 1917), a connection with the importing of textile products to Kinsembo seems plausible (Lloyd, private correspondence). The contents of the wrapper were therefore possibly an illustrated price list of cotton-based products.

Kinsembo is a settlement located 4°40'S, 17°58'E, 26 miles south of today's Kinshasa. A map of the Kinsembo location and its proximity to Leopoldville as well as the South Route across land has been mapped by Charles and this is shown as Illustration 4.

**Illustration 4: Kinsembo located south of Kinshasa**



At the time this wrapper was mailed and its arrival in Matadi in 1891 mail was carried overland by caravan on the South Route to Leopoldville (du Four, 1962). Technically this was the transportation mode and route of European mail until 1898 when construction of the railway was complete. However, this route had been an established caravan route before it became known as the South Route. The word "caravan" is used in its earlier meaning being a succession of porters carrying the mail and other cargo on flat platforms.

There are a number of disquieting unanswered questions about this routing. The time between Liverpool and Boma is estimated from Delbeke's table as 47 days but can this time be substantiated? A second question is how was the newspaper wrapper sent from Boma to Matadi? It may have been by paddlewheel steamer because of the shallow sections of the river. The Gudenkauf studies are silent regarding the vessels used to transport mail to Matadi. What was the distance to Kinsembo from the South Route itself? How many days did it take a caravan from Matadi to travel by this arduous overland route to Leopoldville and Kinsembo? Answers to some of these questions might be obtained by examining markings on letter mail of the same period from Liverpool to Leopoldville.

Having described this somewhat elegant scenario the author still felt uneasy. For one thing, for a trading post, the location of Kinsembo was just too difficult to find on the map. Google Earth co-ordinates place it neither near a river nor close to any other settlement. Web sites suggest today's traveller would find more to do in alternative locations such as Kinshasa, and recent photographs of Kinsembo give no hint that it was ever a bustling trading post. Another matter is that the destination on the wrapper is stated as South West Coast of Africa. Kinsembo, Congo is a considerable distance inland and is classified more as central interior Africa than south west coast. These concerns led to a reconsideration of the location and the reconstruction of an alternative destination.

## Scenario B

About 140 miles south of Banana on the west coast (and just south of the Loge River) is Ambriz, Angola. The connection between the Ambriz and a different Kinsembo has been described in a series of early explorer accounts (such as Burton, 1876 and Ansell, 1870). The Portuguese town of Ambriz was founded in 1855 and became the main port of export on the northern coast (of Angola). Commercial control was broadened with the establishment, in 1857, of a custom house. This was built to collect taxes on the imported goods resulting from legal trade that reached Ambriz through the sailing vessels and steam ships that moored about three miles off the coast. The dugouts manoeuvred by skilled sailors from Cabinda unloaded fabrics, firearms and gunpowder, copper and brass wire, liquor, trinkets, glazed ceramics and glassware, lime and tar which were later exchanged for ivory, rubber, coffee, tobacco, oils, peanuts, wax, copper ore, and malachite.

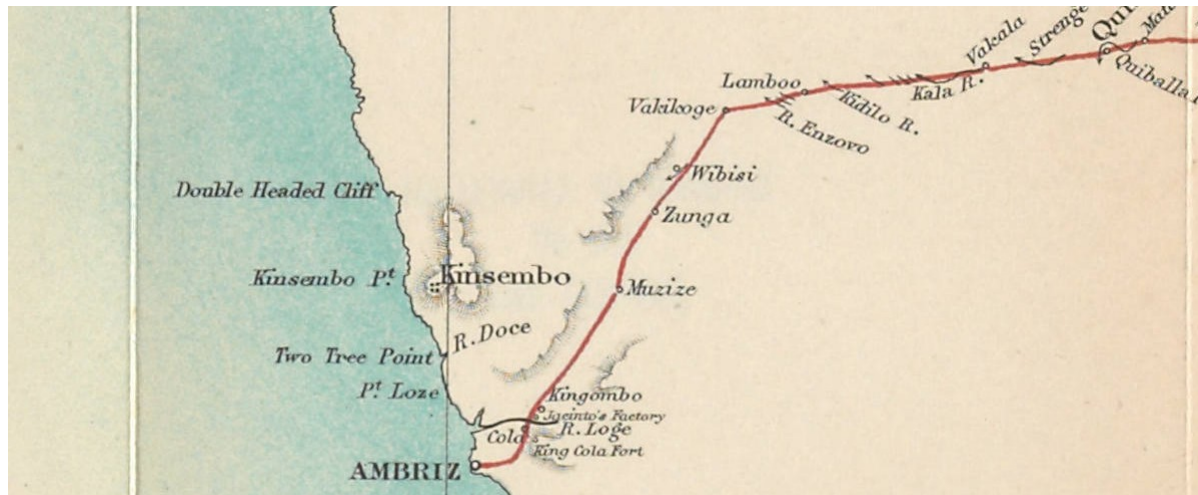
Although Portugal still claimed dominion over all of Southern Africa in the second half of the C19<sup>th</sup>, the areas under its control were small and isolated. On the west, in Angola, the southern coast was ruled only as far north as Ambriz. Tribal control existed north of Ambriz as far as the Congo River. Foreign European companies became established in what was a *de facto* free trade area and they were the dominant commercial concerns. The Congress of Berlin (1885) assigned the northern coast of Angola and its hinterland to Portugal (as the Kongo District of Angola) but at the same time included the territory in the Congo Free Trade Area.

Monteiro (1875) writes “Ambriz seen from the sea consists of a high rocky cliff or promontory, with a fine bay sweeping with a level beach northward nearly to the next promontory on which stands the trading factories forming a place called **Quissembo**, or **Kinsembo** in the English”, - hence the location of Kinsembo (emphasis added). He adds that: also established in Ambriz were “American and Liverpool houses trading in gum, copal, malachite and ivory and selling for hard cash Manchester and other goods to the slave dealers from Cuba and the Brazils with which goods and slaves from the interior are bought by barter from the natives.” It is a reminder that both legitimate and illegal trade existed in this area in the second half of the C19<sup>th</sup>. The term “gum” is likely to be unprocessed rubber.

The Portuguese customs policy unfairly increased tax by 3% and changed the calculation base from invoice prices to the much higher value assessed by the natives on the imported goods. This had the effect of causing the foreign companies to relocate from Ambriz to the tax free area 10 miles north of the River Loge (i.e. to Quissembo) in order to avoid the taxes. A fixed fee per ship was paid instead to the tribal king.

North of Ambriz there were large foreign companies such as Hatton and Cookson of Liverpool and small Portuguese companies. Hatton and Cookson operated its own steamer along the West African coast, as far as Ambriz, until 1891. The company carried goods for smaller trading companies. This ended with the sale of their *SS Kissanga*, after which the Elder Demster line was contracted to do the job (which presumably included servicing H&C's cargo clients as well). The Elder Demster service was monthly, calling at ten ports between Luanda and the Niger Delta. At the Niger Delta cargos were transhipped to the more frequent vessels operating between there and Liverpool. The year 1891 was the height of rubber operations at Ambriz. The rubber factories likely continued to operate at Quissembo.

### Illustration 5: Lieut. Grandy's Map of his route from Ambriz to the River Congo 1873-74



Kinsembo (Quissembo) is not easy to locate on maps. An on-line map of Lieutenant Grandy's route in 1873 from Ambriz to the River Congo gives details of the villages encountered. A section of this map is shown as illustration 5. On this, the location of Kinsembo can be seen. The name Kinsembo appears to have been taken from the name Kinsembo Point.

*Note: In November 1872 The Royal Geographical Society of London sent two expeditions to Africa to relieve Dr David Livingstone. Lt. J W Grady RN would advance from the west, starting at Ambriz. Because his caravan made slow progress the plan was changed, to head for the Congo River and venture upstream. At Lukungu news was received that Dr Livingstone was dead. The expedition was recalled.*

As was discussed in Scenario A, the wrapper is highly likely to be associated with the textile industry. As noted earlier, at this time Manchester was known as “Cottonopolis” for being the world centre of cotton cloth manufacture and export. In 1891, the export of cotton cloth goods to Angola from Manchester, despite the punitive tariff imposed by the Portuguese, was not less than 1,665,710 kg. Liverpool is the most likely port of departure of this newspaper wrapper because of its rail proximity to Manchester and because the Elder Dempster line operated out of this port to Ambriz.

A major breakthrough, which is a credit to Charles' dedicated Internet sleuthing, has been to identify the recipient of the wrapper. Freudenthal (2004) has researched the Portuguese Sephardic Jewish community of Angola in the C19<sup>th</sup> and C20<sup>th</sup>. The community consisted of 71 people and was important in trade. At Quissembo there is a record of a Felix Cohn in 1892. His record is incomplete with no birthplace and no dates of birth or death. However, his occupation is given as *feitor* (Pt) which translates to overseer/foreman/land agent. Because the wrapper is addressed to “F Cohn and Co.” it appears that land agent is the appropriate option. “Land agent” is likely to be a generic term for agent and trader. For this occupation he would order barter textiles from Manchester and presumably send, by Elder Dempster, the commodities he acquired for sale on the European market.

With a reasonable amount of confidence, it can be said that this wrapper travelled from Manchester to Liverpool by rail and from there to Banana and onward to the port of Ambriz via the Elder Dempster Line. The 1d prepaid indicium paid the concessionary rate for the second weight scale of 4 oz., being (probably) a catalogue of textile products available from one of the fabric mills in Manchester. The recipient Felix Cohn as agent and trader likely took delivery of textile products in return for barrels of palm oil or unprocessed rubber.

## Conclusion

The reason that Scenario A was allowed to stand in the final draft of this article is because both Charles and I felt it necessary to remind philatelists that there should be no short-cut in conducting research. Alternative hypotheses should be examined to assess the most reliable and verifiable underlying story. Scenario A could have stood alone with facts selected to support an elegant story, or as Charles put it “we see what we want to see”. By questioning the plausibility of the Congo Kinsembo destination and examining the alternative Kinsembo on the southwest coast of Africa, the destination of the wrapper can be settled.

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## Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks as usual to Allan Gory for his reading and commenting on an earlier draft and to Charles Lloyd for his kind and willing assistance in building the map and garnering important information about Angola and Ambriz trade and especially for his sleuthing the identity of the recipient of the wrapper. His contribution was immeasurable in bringing the story to a sound conclusion.

**C**an you help ?

## Wants

Eric Coulton, a member of both the East Africa Study Circle and the Belgian Congo Study Circle, is putting together a census of all known covers from the British Naval Africa Expedition of 1915-17. If any members have covers from this expedition and are happy to send scans to Eric for adding to the census, could they please contact Eric on [ericcoulton@aol.com](mailto:ericcoulton@aol.com)? He requires the information by mid-July at the latest. Thank you.



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Number	Date	Description	#COB	Minimum Bid
<b>Mols - reconstructed plates</b>				
1	1909	1909 issue 10F green, perf 12, typo overprint, nearly full reconstruction of plate I.2 + A.1, 46 stamps., all used	49	180
2	1894	1894 issue, 5c blue, full reconstruction of the plate, 50 stamps, 29 mint + 21 used	14	150
3	1909	1909 issue 15 c ochre, typo overprint, full reconstruction of plate I + A2 and A3 , 50 stamps., 19 mint + 31 used	42	50
4	1909	1909 issue, 3,50 F vermillon, typo overprint, nearly full reconstruction of plate I1 + A1, 47 stamps, 5 mint + 42 used	47	180
5	1909	1909 issue, 1F carmine, typo overprint, full reconstruction of of plate I2+ A2, 50 stamps, 8 mint + 42 used	46	70
6	1909	1909 issue, 50 c olive, typo overprint, full reconstruction of plate I2 + A2	45	25
7	1909	1909 issue, 1F carmine, local overprint 1, part of reconstruction of plate I2+ A2, 35 stamps, 2 mint + 33 used	36L	120
8	1894	1894 issue, 10F green, perf 12, part of reconstruction of plate I2 + A1, 32 stamps, 1 mint + 31 used	29a	250
9	1894	1894 issue, 10 Fgreen, perf 14, nearly full reconstruction of plate I1 + A1, 45 stamps, 1 mint + 44 used	29	300
10	1894	1894 issue, 5 F carmine, full reconstruction of plate I1 + A1, 50 stamps, 6 mint + 44 used, included used strip of 3 corner of sheet	28	300
11	1894	1894 issue, 50 c olive, full reconstruction of plate I1/2 + A2, 50 stamps, 5 mint + 45 used	25	30
12	1894	1894 issue, 25 c blue, full reconstruction of plate I2 + A2, 50 stamps, 14 mint + 36 used	22	30
13	1894	1894 issue, 25 c orange, full reconstruction of plate I1 + A1, 50 stamps, 32 mint + 18 used	21	50
14	1894	1894 issue, 15 c ochre, full reconstruction of plate I1 + A1, 50 stamps, 2 mint + 48 used	20	30
15	1894	1894 issue, 10 c carmine, very nearly full reconstruction of three plates (I.2 + A4, I.3 + A5, I.4 + A5), 148 stamps, 33 mint + 115 used	19	50
16	1894	1894 issue, 10 c blue, full reconstruction of plate I.1/2 + A.2/3, 50 stamps, 17 mint + 33 used	18	30
17	1894	1894 issue, 10 c red-brown, full reconstruction of plate I.1 + A.1/2, 50 stamps, 30 mint + 20 used	17	150
18	1894	1894 issue, 5 c green, full reconstruction of two plates (I.1 + B1 and I.2 + B2), 100 stamps, 47 mint + 53 used	16 + 16a	30
19	1894	1894 issue, 5 c red-brown, full reconstruction of plate I.1 + A.1, 50 stamps, 30 mint + 20 used	15	40
20	1909	1909 issue, 5 c green, typo overprint, nearly full reconstruction (# 33 missing) of plate I.2+ B2, 49 stamps, 45 mint + 4 used	40	60
21	1909	1909 issue, 25 c blue, typo overprint, nearly full reconstruction of plate I.2+ A2 (only 4 missing stamps) and full reconstruction of plate I.3 + A2, 96 stamps, 26 mint + 70 used	43 + 43a	50
22	1910	1909 issue (unilingual), full reconstruction of sheets of all four values, 200 stamps, 94 mint + 106 used	50/53	200
23	1909	1909 issue 5F carmine, typo overprint, nearly full reconstruction of plate combination I.1 + A.1, 46 stamps, 7 mint + 39 used. Rare	48	250



Mols - full sheets				
24	1894	1894 issue, 5 c green, full sheet in two part of 25 stamps, I.1 + B.1, UM and LH	16	40
25	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.1 + A6, UM	55	9
26	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.1 + A6a, perf 14, UM (small tear in upper margin)	55	9
27	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.2 + A6b, perf 14, no gum	55	5
28	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.2 + A7, perf 14, UM	55	9
29	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.2 + A7, perf 14, UM	55	9
30	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.2 + A7, perf 15, UM	55	16
31	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.2 + A7, perf 15, UM	55	16
32	1910	1910 issue, 10c carmine, full sheet, combination III.3 + A7, perf 14, UM	55	9
33	1910	1910 issue, 5 c green, full sheet, combination III.1 + B3, perf 14, UM/LH	54	9
34	1910	1910 issue, 5 c green, full sheet, combination III.1 + B4a, perf 14, UM, margins slightly damaged	54	7,50
35	1910	1910 issue, 5 c green, full sheet, combination III.1 + B6, perf 15, UM/LH	54	15
36	1910	1910 issue, 5 c green, full sheet, combination III.2 + C, perf 14, UM	54	9
37	1910	1910 issue, 5 c green, full sheet, combination IV + D2, perf 14, no gum	54	5
38	1909	1909 issue (unilingual), 50 c olive full sheet, combination II + A2, UM	53	120
39	1909	1909 issue, "unilingual", 10 c carmine, full sheet in two part of 25 stamps, combination II + A5, UM/LH, slightly rustspotted	51	25
40	1909	1909 issue, 5 c green, combination I.2 + B2, typo overprint, slightly rustspotted, sheet slightly damaged	40	195
41	1910	1910 issue, 25 c blue, full sheet, combination II 4 + B, UM, very good condition	57	38
42	1910	1910 issue, 25 c blue, full sheet, combination II1 + A3, UM	57	35
43	1910	1910 issue, 25 c blue, full sheet, combination II1 + A4, no gum	57	9
44	1915	1915 issue, 40 c carmine-brown, two full sheets , with both known combinations II + A2 and II + A3, UM/LH, very good condition	68	250
45	1910	1910 issue, 40 c green-blue, full sheet, combination II + A2, perf 14, UM	58	30
46	1918	1918 Red Cross issue, 5 c to 1 F, full sheets, UM (except four stamps LH), rare in such a good condition	72/78	100
47	1894	1894 issue, 10 c carmine, full sheet, combination I.2 + A.4, UM/LH, some stamps slightly oxidated	19	45
48	1916	Ruanda-Urundi, 1916 issue, 5 c full sheet (one 5c stamp missing) overprint B, combination V.3 + F, UM	28	3,50
49	1916	Ruanda-Urundi, 1916 issue, 15 c full sheet perf 15, overprint B, combination IV.1 + C1, UM	30	35
50	1916	Ruanda-Urundi, 1916 issue, 1 F full sheet, combination II.3 + A.5, overprint B, UM	34	30
51	1922	Ruanda-Urundi, 1922 issue, 30c/10 c, full sheet, combination V.2 + B.2, overprint B, UM	48	8
52	1909	B. Congo, 1909 issue, 10 c carmine, local overprint L5, block of 20 stamps (part of sheet), combination I.2 + A4, UM/LH	31L	40
53	1909	B. Congo, 1909 issue, 10 c carmine, local overprint L1, block of 26 stamps (part of sheet), combination I.2 + A4, UM/LH	31L	50
54	1923	registered cover from Bukama 29-03-1923 to Fiume, backstamped with Elisabethville, Milan and Fiume marks. Correct postal rate.	70	50
55	1915	letter from Banque du Congo Belge Stanleyville 14/09/1915, transfer of a sum of 100 £ to Lieutenant Dupont and opening of an account in London.		0,50
56	1940	lot of 2 covers, each from Liberia, to Usa and South Africa, censored mail in Sierra Leone		12
57	1916	booklets 1916 issue, 5c green, collection of 13 booklets, perf 14 (12) and 15 (1), all three kinds of paper, UM and LH, one booklet without upper margin ; furthermore each booklet has its reconstruction with (mostly) used stamps. In a Lindner album. Interesting collection.	64	75



Postal stationery				
58	1912	postal stationery, illustrated postcard palmtree 10 c carmine view #26, mint	Stibbe 43	1,50
59	1912	postal stationery, illustrated postcard palmtree 10 c carmine view #31, mint	Stibbe 43	1
60	1912	postal stationery, illustrated postcard palmtree 10 c carmine view #37, cancelled to order, with additional stamp	Stibbe 43	1
61	1912	postal stationery, illustrated postcard palmtree 10 c carmine view #71, used, with additional stamp	Stibbe 43	2
62	1922	postal stationery, illustrated postcard palmtree 15/5 c yellow-green with "15" black surcharge, view #68, mint	Stibbe 52	7
Covers and miscellaneous				
63	1943	Messages blocks, full set, excellent condition, with margin, UM	BL 3/10	350
64	1943	Ruanda-Urundi, Messages blocks, full set, excellent condition, with margin, UM	BL 1/4	160
65	1946	Two airmail covers from Brussels to Léopoldville and return. First flight in 25 hours.24.02.1946, return flight on 27.02.1946		5
66	1915	1915 issue, 50 c lilac-brown, block of four, LH	69	10
67	1948	Ruanda-Urundi, registered airmail cover, Usumbura 10.6.48 to Brussels	138,141,144	7,50
68	1946	Airmail cover franked with a pair of #254 and a strip of 3 of #261, NIZI 9.6.46, to Brussels. Boxed mark "AVION".		8
69	1952	Airmail cover Kissenga 11.8.52 to Namur. Boxed mark "AVION". Franking with 1947 issue 2F + 5F. Transit mark Elisabethville on reverse.		4
70	1948	Airmail cover, Elisabethville 21.1.1948 to Costermansville (internal mail). Franking : vertical pair of #274. Arrival Costermansville mark on reverse.		6
71	1949	Airmail cover Jadotville 26.9.1949 to Brussels. Letter was too heavy for postage (handwritten "17,5 gr T5"), therefore has been taxed 5 Francs in Brussels (two belgian postage due stamps). Interesting item in good, although not perfect, condition.		9
72	1960	Printed matter cover from Elisabethville 8.9.1960, to Brussels. Franking insufficient, postage due belgian stamp. Excellent condition.		8
73	1924	Cover from ? (unidentified) to Profondeville (Belgium). Beautiful franking with stamps of two issues.		12
74	1925	Postcard with 1921 issue 30c/10c carmine, from Kindu 14.7.1925 to Belgium	89	4,50
75	1945	Censor postcard Elisabethville 19.2.45 to Brussels, censor linear mark (Elisabethville censor)		12
76	1943	Airmail Censor cover, IRUMU 6.4.43, to the USA, common censor linear mark (CENSURE CONGO BELGE)		7
77	1916	Postal stationery (illustrated postcard, 10 c carmine palmtree) from Matadi 7.4.1916 to the Netherlands. Boxed Censor # 14 and censor linear mark "Censuur gepasseerd".		9
78	1945	Airmail cover from Elisabethville to Belgium, adhesive censor strip on left side. Transit marks (Léopoldville) on reverse		6
79	1942	Front of a censor cover showing the whole censor strip, from Léopoldville 15.7.42 to England, mixed franking with airmail and postage stamps.The cancellation on the strip is two days later than the one on the stamps, this reveals the period of time needed to censor the letter.		8



80	1940	Airmail cover from Spain 5.9.40 to B. Congo (incoming mail), censor strip and linear mark CENSURE CONGO BELGE		6
81	1942	Cover from Albertville 12.8.45 to Bath (England). Belgian Congo (Albertville) and Great Britain censors.		10
82	1945	Airmail cover from Costermansville 26.2.45 to New York, USA. Belgian Congo and US Censors adhesive strips. Leopoldville transit mark on reverse. Costermansville censor bureau.		9
83	1945	Costermansville censor bureau. Cover from Costermansville 22.5.45 to Belgium. Belgian Congo censor mark. No censor mark on arrival in Belgium		9
84	1945	Costermansville censor bureau. Cover from Costermansville 11.3.45 to New York, USA. Belgian Congo and US censors. The Belgian Congo censor strip has been removed.		5
85	1942	Coquilhatville censor bureau : lot of a cover (from Coquilhatville to Manchester, England, 29.4.42, british censor only) and a piece of cover with linear censor mark of Coquilhatville and cancelled stamp. Interesting little lot.		11
86	1944	cover from Banga-Tshela 11.3.44 to South Africa. Several transit marks on reverse. South African Censor.		7
87	1945	postcard from Basankusu 12.3.45 to Switzerland. Coquilhatville censor linear mark. Franking 1942 issue 1F in pair	257 pair	7
88	1950	postal stationery of Belgium (Publibel postcard) with official advertisement "Cafés de notre Congo", promoting Congo coffees in Belgium, Belgian stamp Lion 90 c lilac. Ca 1950. Mint and excellent condition.		4
89	1948	Incoming mail. Airmail letter from Belgium (Dour 3.5.48) to Coquilhatville. "Par avion" label. Strip of four 5 F green king Leopold III stamp, with typo overprint - 10 %.		6
90	1938	Free postage registered cover from Costermansville 10.11.1938, from "Service des timbres postaux du congrès international du tourisme de Costermansville". This envelope was used to send the 1938 issue with block #2 to subscribers. Rare. A must in a 1938 issue National Parks collection.		8
91	1950	Telegram from "territoire Oshwe, district Inongo". Telegraphic mark Leopoldville 29.7.50.		4
92	1953	Registered free postage cover (Service des chèques postaux du Congo Belge) from Usumbura (Ruanda-Urundi) 20.6.53 to Leopoldville-Kalina. Registration label Usumbura.		2
93	1958	Free postage airmail cover from Leopoldville-Kalina to Brussels. 24 oct 58.		1
94	1922	postal stationery : illustrated postcard palmtree 30c carmine, view #78 (golf), used, cancellation Kinshasa 12.XII.23	Stibbe 62	6
95	1916	Ruanda-Urundi 1916 issue, full set, UM and LH, type B, very good condition	28/35	20
96	1921	Congo 1921 issue 5F carmine, lot of 4 items, LH (1), used (3). Very beautiful cancellation Kinshasa 7.XII.1922 on one item though thinned.	93	10
97	1921	1921 issue, 25c/15c ochre, lot of 3 items, LH, included 1 with <b>forged overprint</b>	88	1
98	1922	1922 issue, 30c/10c carmine, lot of 25 used stamps, BOC # 98 (12) and 98a (13). A bargain for researchers...	98 + 98a	0,50
99	1915	1915 issue, 10c carmine, block of 4 corner of sheet, UM (tropical gum) + 1F olive used (x2) + 5F orange used (x4). Another bargain !	65	1
100	1962	Burundi "Royaume du royaume" overprint (error), UM, very beautiful.	Dr 11A, Dr 20	8,50

# POSTAL AUCTION SALE 2014-2

## REALISED PRICES

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
1	3,55	55	52,00	109	0,00
2	0,00	56	12,00	110	0,00
3	53,00	57	10,25	111	0,00
4	0,00	58	6,75	112	0,00
5	1,75	59	0,00	113	0,00
6	0,00	60	21,25	114	1,00
7	0,00	61	0,00	115	13,25
8	2,25	62	15,00	116	0,00
9	12,00	63	0,00	117	5,25
10	12,00	64	0,00	118	1,50
11	0,00	65	0,00	119	0,00
12	0,00	66	0,00	120	3,55
13	0,00	67	0,00	121	0,00
14	0,00	68	26,00	122	4,05
15	0,00	69	0,00	123	0,00
16	0,00	70	13,25	124	11,25
17	11,25	71	0,00	125	16,00
18	0,00	72	28,00		
19	3,50	73	14,25		
20	21,25	74	41,00		
21	4,75	75	21,00		
22	8,25	76	20,00		
23	0,00	77	21,25		
24	0,00	78	11,75		
25	2,25	79	0,00		
26	5,25	80	9,50		
27	6,25	81	41,00		
28	5,25	82	0,00		
29	2,75	83	0,00		
30	0,00	84	0,00		
31	5,25	85	0,00		
32	5,25	86	10,25		
33	0,00	87	12,25		
34	0,00	88	0,00		
35	10,25	89	0,00		
36	11,00	90	0,00		
37	5,50	91	0,00		
38	45,00	92	4,25		
39	0,00	93	0,00		
40	12,75	94	0,00		
41	0,00	95	0,00		
42	0,00	96	10,25		
43	0,00	97	0,00		
44	0,00	98	0,00		
45	0,00	99	26,00		
46	3,75	100	0,00		
47	0,00	101	2,50		
48	6,50	102	7,00		
49	0,00	103	0,00		
50	7,25	104	0,00		
51	5,75	105	0,00		
52	7,00	106	0,00		
53	13,50	107	0,00		
54	9,25	108	0,00		

# BID FORM (BCSC 2015-1 )

to be sent to

**Th.FRENNET – Rue La rue 17 – B-1420 Braine L'alleud - Belgique/Europe**

**Or by E-mail at : [hydro-services@skynet.be](mailto:hydro-services@skynet.be)**

**Name :**

Date :



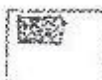

**FULL ADDRESS :**

**Signature :**

**A 10% Buyer's premium will be charged on lots that are bought**

## Auction's rules

### Abbreviations used

2000-2009 Notes		GUM	
UM	= unmounted mint – unused with original gum in Post Office state, never hinged.		
LH	= lightly hinged – unused with original gum, mounted with a peelable hinge	U.M.	L.H.
OG	= original gum – unused with original gum slightly disturbed or alternatively having a previous hinge		
Part OG	= part original gum – unused with original gum – large hinge remnants may or may not be present	O.G.	PART O.G.

CB=CONGO BELGE; COB=Catalogue Officiel Belge number; RU=Ruanda Urundi;  
Designations of cancellations are in accordance with the Heim & Koch classification.

Bidding steps :

0	to	5 Euros	per	0.05 Euro
5 Euros	to	25 Euros	per	0.25 Euro
25 Euros	to	50 Euros	per	1.00 Euros
50 Euros	to	250 Euros	per	2.00 Euros
250 Euros	to	500 Euros	per	5.00 Euros
	over	500 Euros	per	10.00 Euros

**Postage on lots will be charged to buyers**

See also our website : [www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be](http://www.belgian-congo-study-circle.be)

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